Dr. Ramvilas Devji Vidanti, Member, Shri Ram Janambhoomi Trust

Shri Maheshwar Devji of Hardwar

Mahant Gangadasji Nasik

Mahamandaleshwar Santoshi Maharaj of Kashi

Mahant Avaidhya Nath

Swami Chinmayanand

Swami Satyamitranand

Ram Bhaktas shot at Ayodhya

542. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the command of certain officers of para-military forces, shooting on unarmed Ram Bhaktas took place on the 30th October, and 2nd November, last in Ayodhya at chest and head;

(b) whether such shooting is contrary to the instructions;

(c) whether some of these officers were later decorated with honour; and

(d) if so, what are their names, ranks and dates of their posting in Ayodhya; alongwith the date of decoration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Problem of Unemployment

543. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out a programme for solving the problem of unemployment; and

(b) if so, the estimated layout thereof and the rate of growth of employment per annum contemplated thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) The Eighth Plan Approach Document propose employment as the central thrust of the Plan. Sub-stantial shifts in the pattern of investment in favour of sectors and activities using less capital and more labour per unit of output have been suggested for the purpose. The proposed strategy emphasises creation of employment opportunities on an increasingly larger scale in the normal process of development. At the same time, it recognises the need for special programmes designed to offer guaranteed work to the needy as an interim measure.

(b) The target will be to achieve on the average a 3 per cent annual rate of increase in employment over the next decade. The details would be incorporated in the Eighth Plan Document.

Bofors Gun deal case

544. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would pursue the Bofors gun deal case in the interest of the country after gettting the relevent papers from the Swiss authorities now: and

(b) if so, in what direction and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The case is under investigation. It will not be in the interest of the investigation to disclose details or the direction of the investigation, at this stage.